

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT

SUBJECT: MEMCON WUZH CONSERVATIVE MILAN DC LEADER DE CAROLIS

1. FORMER DMILAN DC CITY COUNCIL LEADER (DOROTEO) DE CAROLIS, (OUSTED AS LEADER AFTER JUNE ELECTIONS DESPITE HIGHEST PERSONAL VOTE NEXT TO MAYOR) DEEPLY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT SHORT AND LONG RUN OUTLOOK. BLUNTLY PUT, HE FEARS DC WILL DISINTERGRATE AND COLLAPSE AS A POLITICAL FORCE AS DID FRENCH MRP. BUT WHEREAS GAULISTS WERE PRESENT TO GATHER NON-COMMUNIST FORCES IN FRANCE THERE WILL BE NOTHING TO OPPOSE PCI IN ITALY.

2. THIS GRIM APPRAISAL, WHICH DE CAROLIS SAYS IS NOT SHARED BY HIS PARTY COLLEGES, ARISES FROM EXPERIENCE WITH DC NATIONAL COUNCIL AS WELL AS EFFORTS IN MILAN TO FORM NEW CITY COUNCIL.

3. AFTER TEN DAYS AT ROME DC COUNCIL, DE CAROLIS SAYS PARTY IS LEADERLESS AND DRIFTING AT CRUCIAL MOMENT WHILE PCI AND PSI HAVE A NATIONAL POLICY THAT IS BEING PUT INTO EFFECT AS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FORMED. DC HAS NO POLICY AND IS BEING SWEEPED ALONG BY LOCAL DECISIONS. OLDER GENERATION OF FANFANI, PICCOLI, TAVIANI, ETC CLINGING TO REMANANTS OF POWER RESISTING THIRD GENERATION OF YOUNGER LEADERS UNABLE TO GAIN CONTROL.

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4. NEVERTHELESS, PARTY UNITED IN OPPOSITION TO COMPROMESSO STORICO AND THREAT OF PARTY SPLIT OR CREATION NEW PARTY NOT YET A PROBLEM, HE SAID.

5. IN MILAN, FIRST MEETING OF NEW CITY COUNCIL WILL OCCUR TODAY AND DE CAROLIS EXPECTS PCI-PSI-PSDI ALLIANCE TO RE-ELECT PSI ANIASI AS MAYOR, ALTHOUGH VOTE MAY NOT COME UNTIL AUG 2.

6. DC WOULD THUS GO INTO OPPOSITION DESPITE ITS GAINS IN JUNE ELECTIONS IN MILAN. THIS WILL BE STAGGERING BLOW AT PATRONAGE LEVEL. DC WILL LOSE WHOLE SPECTRUM OF JOBS WHICH HAVE MEANT INIOME, PARTY WORKERS AND VOTES. AT SAME TIME, IT WILL KILL OFF ADLARGE PART OF OLDER GENERATION OF LEADERS WHO ARE WEDDED TO PATRONAGE SYSTEM AND SURVIVE BECAUSE OF IT. THUS, CHANCES OF NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS WILL BE ENHANCED. QUESTION IS WHETHER BIRD IN BUSH OF NEW LEADERSHIP WILL REPLACE BIRD IN HAND OF PATRONAGE. DE CAROLIS CLAIMS TO FAVOR RUNNING THE RISK SINCE HE SEES NO REAL CHOICE.

7. IN HIS VIEW, DC MUST QUICKLY GEAR UP FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS TO BE FOUGHT ON ISSUE OF ITALY'S ORIENTATION - EAST OR WEST. BUT HE IS NOT OPTIMISTIC AND FEARS THAT PCI AND PSI WILL GAIN MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT AS WELL.

8. DE CAROLIS SAYS IT IMPORTANT US DEVELOP CONTACT WITH AND SUPPORT "THIRD GENERATION" OF DC LEADERSHIP WHICH HE SAYS IS PRO-US AND ONLY HOPE OF PRESERVING DC AS SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL FORCE. SPECIFICALLY,

HE LISTED DOROTEO FACTION LEADERS GIUSEPPE ZAMBERLETTI, UNDER-SECRETARY OF INTERIOR, FILIPPO MARIA PANDOLFI, UNDERSECRETARY OF FINANCE, ADOLFO SARTI, MIN OF TURISIM, FNU CALLERI, PRESIDENT CASSE DI RISPARMIO, BASE LEADER FRANCESCO COSSIGA, MINISTER FOR REFORM OF BUREAUCRACY, FORZE NUOVE DEPUTY GUIDO BOTRATO, PLUS MIN DEF ARMANDO FORLANI WHOM HE HIGHLY REGARDS.FINA

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